

REMARKS

The three-way restriction requirement and the withdrawal of nonelected Claims 14-18 is acknowledged. The withdrawn claims remain pending in the application because each independent withdrawn claim contains limitations of examined Claim 1. If Claim 1 is allowed, then the remaining claims should be rejoined and allowed as well.

The indication that Claim 11 contains allowable subject matter is noted. That claim has been canceled and its limitations have been incorporated into Claim 1. That limitation has been incorporated also into each of independent withdrawn Claims 14, 17, and 18. A change to Claim 10 has been made as a result of the change to Claim 11. The claims before the Examiner are Claims 1 to 10 and 12 to 18, with Claims 14 to 18 withdrawn.

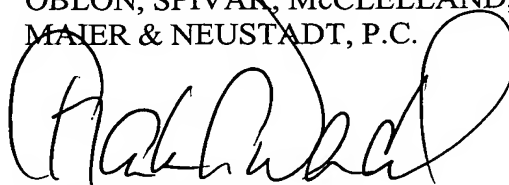
The change to Claim 1 renders all the art rejections moot because the independent claim now contains language from a claim that was not rejected over art. All pending claims are now allowable.

It is pointed out that while Ishiyama et al., US 6,558,864 was used to reject claims, the reference was not listed in the Notice of References Cited. A paper so listing that reference to complete the record is requested.

Reconsideration of all rejections is earnestly solicited. The Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned if additional changes are required in the case prior to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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